



**Advisory Announcement**  
***For Immediate Release: April 14, 2021***

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**2021 KETCHIKAN HERRING FISHERY UPDATE # 14**

An aerial survey was conducted yesterday Tuesday, April 13, and today in the Craig and West Behm areas. The weather on Tuesday, April 13 was poor with 25–30 knot winds, low ceiling, and poor visibility. The weather for today's aerial survey was clear skies with calm winds and excellent visibility.

**Craig**

Approximately 1.5 nautical miles (nmi) of active spawn was observed on Tuesday, April 13 on Fish Egg Island, the Ballenas Islands, in Port Bagial, and the Ballandra Shoal. Approximately 1.1 nmi of spawn was observed today in Port Bagial, the outer Alberto Island, San Juan Bautista, and near Blanquizal Point. Harvest from the pound structures has occurred and some fishermen are still harvesting product. Through April 14, the cumulative estimate of herring spawn in the Craig/Klawock area is approximately 34.2 nmi. This is the second largest cumulative miles of spawn documented in the Craig area.

**2021 Craig/Klawock Herring Summary**

March 18, 2021	Limited predator activity.
March 22, 2021	Limited predator activity.
March 25, 2021	Slight increase in predator activity.
March 29, 2021	Reduced predator activity.
April 3, 2021	Slight increase in predator activity.
April 5, 2021	0.2 nmi of spawn on Fish Egg Island. Fisherman actively filling pounds. ~50 pounds filled.
April 6, 2021	1.0 nmi of spawn on Fish Egg Island. Fisherman actively filling pounds. ~55 pounds filled.
April 7, 2021	2.6 nmi of spawn on Fish Egg, Ballenas, Wadleigh and Alberto Islands. ~60 pounds filled.
April 8, 2021	8.7 nmi of spawn on Fish Egg, Ballenas, Wadleigh and Alberto Islands. ~70 pounds filled.
April 9, 2021	10.5 nmi of spawn on Fish Egg, Ballenas, Wadleigh, Alberto, and Abbess Islands. ~70 pounds filled.
April 10, 2021	15.5 nmi of spawn on Fish Egg, Ballenas, Wadleigh, Alberto, Clam, Rosary, & Abbess Islands.
April 11, 2021	22.0 nmi of spawn on Fish Egg, Ballenas, Wadleigh, Alberto, Clam, Rosary, & Abbess Islands.
April 12, 2021	12.4 nmi of spawn on Fish Egg, Ballenas, Wadleigh, Alberto, Clam, Rosary, San Juan Batista, Balandra, & Abbess Islands.
April 13, 2021	1.5 nmi of spawn on Fish Egg, Cape Suspiro, and Ballenas Islands.
April 14, 2021	1.1 nmi of spawn in Port Bagial, outer Alberto and San Juan Bautista Islands, and Blanquizal Point.

**Revilla Channel**

Herring spawn was observed from March 29 to April 6 with the cumulative spawn totaling 7.9 nmi. The *R/V Kestrel* concluded herring spawn dive deposition surveys on Monday, April 12, 2021. Results of the survey will be available in the fall of 2021.

**West Behm Canal**

Aerial surveys began in West Behm Canal on April 5 with no predator activity observed. On April 12, spawn was observed north of Raymond Cove on the Cleveland Peninsula shoreline. Over the next two, days the spawn expanded from Point. Ketchikan Herring Fishery Update # 14

Francis south to Helm Point as well as in Bond Bay. Through April 14 the cumulative estimate of spawn in West Behm Canal is 7.0 nmi.

The next aerial survey is planned for **Thursday, April 14**. This will be the last herring fishery update for the Ketchikan area in 2021. A final Southeast herring update will be issued when spawning has finished throughout Southeast Alaska.

Herring survey data collected by the department from aerial and boat surveys will be available online through the interactive herring spawn maps located on the department's website at:

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareasoutheast.herring#maps>.

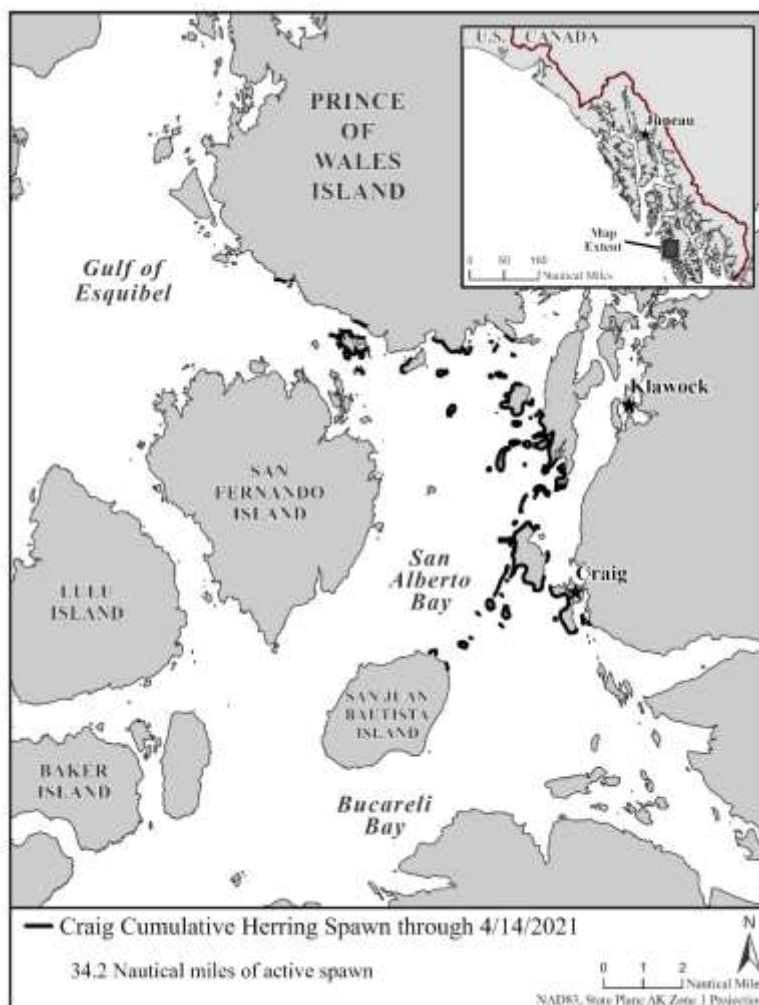


Figure 1. Cumulative Craig/Klawock herring spawn through April 14, 2021.

Under Alaska's Health Advisories 1, 2, 3, and 4, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Advisories. COVID-19 Health Advisories may be found here: <https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-advisories/>.

Advisory Announcement web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

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